



Date: July 18, 2012
To: Transportation Committee
From: Peter Hahn, Director
Subject: Director's Monthly


MEDIA

Seattle Transit Blog Praises SDOT Customer Service: Positive article in the Seattle Transit Blog praising SDOT's blog as an effective way for government to identify problems by listening to customers. "SDOT has a blog, and on that blog there is a page set up just to listen to the public...The responses are simple and courteous, but almost always describe what branch of SDOT the problem is being reported to and how the problem is being solved. "

Temperature Sensors on Bridges Draw Attention: The announcement of a brief closure of the Admiral Way SW off-ramp from the West Seattle Bridge last week for the installation of a temperature sensor drew the attention of the West Seattle Blog and KOMO TV. With information from SDOT, the West Seattle Blog explained in a posting that the sensors will provide real time information to SDOT's snow/ice responders, helping them determine when to apply anti-icing liquid or granular salt. The information will also be used for the U of W's Snow Watch program.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Puget Sound Regional Council Grants: On July 12, the Transportation Policy Board voted to approve a recommendation for a package of projects to be funded through their 2012 federal grant process as well as contingency lists of projects should additional funds become available for distribution. Seattle has seven projects in the recommendation to receive at a total funding amount of over \$12 million of federal Surface Transportation Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant funds. In addition, Seattle has two projects that are on contingency lists for additional funding, if available. Finally, nine partner agency projects, located within Seattle (in full or part) are recommended to receive funding as well.

Projects Recommended For Funding		
Project	Funding Source	Amount (in \$ M)
First Hill Streetcar - Broadway Extension	FTA Competitive	0.85
Seattle Monorail Maintenance	FTA Earned Share	1.93
South Lake Union Streetcar Maintenance	FTA Earned Share	0.52
23 rd Avenue Corridor	Countywide STP (2 programs)	5.00
Westlake Cycletrack	Countywide CMAQ (non-motorized)	1.71
Holman Road Paving	Countywide STP (preservation)	1.13
NE 125 th Street Paving	Countywide STP (preservation)	1.00
Total		12.14
 Partner Agency Projects Recommended For Funding		

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South Park Bridge (KC)	Regional STP (off the top – 2010)	15.00
North Link (ST)	Regional CMAQ	14.43
Clean Truck (PoS)	Regional CMAQ	4.83
Seattle POF Terminal Design (KC)	FTA Competitive	0.60
Third Ave Transit Corridor (KC)	FTA Competitive	3.48
East Link (ST)	FTA Competitive	9.00
RapidRide Bike Access (KC)	Countywide CMAQ (non-motorized)	0.60
Downtown self-service ORCA kiosks (KC)	Countywide CMAQ (All Other)	1.50
Electric Trolley Replacement (KC)	Countywide CMAQ (All Other)	1.18
Seattle Freight Access Study (PoS)	Countywide STP (All Other)	0.25
Total		50.87
Projects Recommended On Contingency Lists		
First Hill Streetcar - Broadway Extension	FTA Competitive	1.25
First Hill Streetcar - Broadway Extension	Regional CMAQ	1.25
Puget Sound Bike Share	Countywide CMAQ (non-motorized)	1.00

The PSRC Executive Board will adopt the TPB's recommendation on July 26. Public review and air quality analysis will happen over the summer, with final board action in October 2012.

Mercer Street: The Mercer East team remains hard at work on construction along Mercer St in preparation for the opening of two-way Mercer between I-5 and Broad St later this summer. The team worked around the clock on ramp and Fairview/Mercer construction during the July 6-8 and 13-15's weekend I-5 ramp closure and has planned another closure. The majority of the underground transmission line civil work within Mercer and Fairview has been completed. Existing pavement and sidewalks have been removed and reconstructed. Work within the Westlake/Mercer intersection was completed, which allowed for Westlake Ave between Mercer and Republican to be re-opened on the 5th of July. 9th Ave from Mercer to Republican closed immediately. On July 6th, to accommodate reconstruction of the intersection at 9th and Mercer, installation of new streetlights and signal poles along Mercer began, installation of pavers, benches, other urban design features began, and irrigation installation continues.

The work to open two-way Mercer St requires a full weekend I-5 on/off ramp closure, with the weekend of August 24-26th currently targeted. A lot of our remaining work is weather-dependent, and we have requested several more potential closure dates in September as backup. We are closely coordinating our work with Traffic Operations to ensure a successful two-way opening, as our success relies heavily on adequately timed signals and proper signage, among a host of other elements. We plan to do some testing during the week(s) prior to the opening. Stay tuned for more on this in the coming weeks. In other news, Mercer West reached a big milestone recently as well - the 100% design contract documents were submitted to SDOT for review in late June.

Spokane Viaduct Widening: The Spokane Viaduct Widening project is now approximately 95% complete. The repair and repaving of the old bridge deck has gone well and should be completed by the end of July, and the west bound 1st Ave off-ramp deck has been poured (the 1st Ave on-ramp is now open to emergency vehicles). The remaining work is the completion of the new median barrier on the upper roadway, which includes light installations. Most surface Spokane paving has been completed,

except near the UPRR tracks (UPRR has just completed its reconstruction of their crossings at 5th Ave and East Marginal Way) and areas in the median. Final signal and electrical work as well as roadway striping will also be completed in the next 4-6 weeks. Last, but not least, the art element of the project has just gotten underway, with many of the columns between 4th and 5th Ave already treated with artistic patterns. The art installation will move into full scale production in August. All in all, after 3½ years of construction, the Spokane Viaduct Widening project is starting to wind down, with substantial completion expected in early September.

SDOT Public Website Stats:

Week of: 07/01/2012 – 07/07/2012

Total website page visits ("hits") for week: 129,013

Total YTD (2012) website page visits ("hits"): 4,113,989

Most visited web pages this week:

- SDOT Home Page
- Burke-Gilman Trail Information and Maps
- Seattle Area Construction Look Ahead
- Parking in Seattle
- South Spokane Street Project

SDOT Blog Stats:

Week of: 07/01/2012 – 07/07/2012

Total blog page visits ("hits") for week: 1,877

Total YTD (2012) blog page visits ("hits"): 48,638

On The Move Blog Stats:

Week of: 07/01/2012 – 07/07/2012

Total blog page visits ("hits") for week: 1,300

Total YTD (2012) blog page visits ("hits"): 22,042

Weekly Traffic Camera Usage Update:

Week of: 07/01/2012 to 07/07/2012

Total Camera Images Viewed ("hits"): 2,344,176

Total Visitors Who Viewed Cameras: 2,157

Top 10 most popular cameras this week:

1. West Seattle Bridge mid-span
2. W Admiral Way & Chelan Ave
3. 11th Ave SW & SW Spokane Pl
4. E Marginal Way S & S Hanford St
5. SR-99 & S Lander St
6. 1st Ave S & E Marginal Way S
7. West Seattle Bridge @ Delridge Way
8. 15th Ave W & W Emerson St
9. 1st Ave S & S Holgate St
10. Aurora Ave N & N 87th St